

## **ABSTRACT**

A system for gathering, formatting, validating, compressing,  
5 processing and storing a large volume of transactional data is  
presented. The system preferably analyzes pharmaceutical drug  
transactions. Importantly, the method of compressing the  
gathered data of the present invention detects repetitive  
behavior, and data patterns, to more efficiently process and  
10 store the large volume of transactional data. Also, the stored  
data is processed and analyzed more quickly due to its reduced  
size. Further, the present invention retains all useful  
information represented by the transactional data after  
compression of the data (i.e., it does not filter data for the  
15 purpose of reducing the quantity of data). The results of the  
process give users a truer sense of market activity.  
Additionally, the present invention allows new data to be added  
to historical data to allow a progressive analysis of the data.